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But at each eminent physician's house, he
 Saw spirits muster, either less or more ;
 So that quite frightened, his intended spouse he
 Would not deliver to their clutches o'er ;
 With grief and anguish his sad heart was sore.
 He wandered quite bewildered through the city,
 Peering at every doctor's house in hopes of pity.
 At last, oh, ecstasy ! oh, blissful vision !
 He saw a door where but two small ghosts stood ;
 Behold ! he cried with joy, the great physician,
 Whom long I sought for, but I never could
 Succeed till now in making my search good.
 The doctor, quite surprised, said, " Pray don't scout, Sir.
 But tell me how you e'er contrived to make me out, Sir."
 " Oh, learned Sir," your skill and reputation,
 Replied the lover, " are to me well known."
 " My skill !" the doctor said, " I've held this station,
 But one short week ; and candidly I own,
 I've had but two small patients" — with a groan
 The lover heard him thus his fond hopes mar,
 And in despair exclaimed, " But two ! and there they are !"

M. A. A.

 CRITICAL NOTICES.

Ireland in 1830. The Second Year's Administration of the Duke of Northumberland. By the Rev. E. Tighe Gregory, LL.D. Dublin: T. Webb, 1831.

A Repeal of the Union, the Ruin of Ireland. By R. B. G. Dublin: William Curry, Jun. & Co. 1831.

We are, and always have been, the determined enemies of political churchmen. Nothing we detest more, than to see individuals who should be the "ministers of peace," and whose time and talents should be consecrated to the spiritual advantage of the flocks over which they have been placed, mingling, and taking an active part in the little petty politics and party strifes which agitate the current of society around them. We have frequently denounced this unchristian practice, as it regarded the Roman Catholic priesthood of Ireland ; and we would still more strongly reprobate such conduct in individuals, who, from the greater degree of light and knowledge they possess, might be expected to act differently—we allude to the Protestant clergymen of the country. There is a time, however, when it is the imperative duty of every

man, of every calling and profession, to stand forward, and by every means which Providence may have placed within his power, endeavour to maintain the peace and tranquillity of the country in which he may reside. When evil-minded men are plotting the revolution of a country, in order to raise themselves upon its ruins, and by holding out specious though delusive hopes, are endeavouring to instigate the ignorant and unwary to deeds of anarchy and bloodshed ; at such a period, it is the duty of every man, who may have the slightest influence in society, to raise his voice, and employ his pen, against the mischievous measures of the political demagogue.

We have been led to these remarks, by a perusal of the two pamphlets before us—the one by a clergyman of this city—the other by a clergyman in the County of Wexford, the Rev. Mr. Gordon, who is, we believe, the son of the talented individual of that name, by whom the *History of the Rebellion of 1798*, the British Islands, &c. were written.

Mr. Gregory and Mr. Gordon, ap-

pear to have been strenuous favourers of the Roman Catholic Emancipation bill; they now both appear equally averse to a Repeal of the Union, and equally opposed to the views of Mr. O'Connell and his partizans. Our opinions regarding these measures are already before the public. Some time previous to the passing of this bill, which gave to the Roman Catholics all that they then said they required; and long before "the National" had assumed a local habitation and a name, we felt it our duty to state through the press, our convictions of the train of results which must inevitably follow the passing of such a measure at *that particular period*. And although claiming for ourselves neither the title of a prophet, nor yet the son of a prophet, we now find, on a reference to the pamphlet containing our opinions, that our precognitions were well founded; that what we stated as likely to be the result, has been fully realised, so far as time has yet been able to develop events; and still retaining our convictions, that a more unfortunate or inauspicious moment for the granting of relief, could not possibly have been chosen, than that at which the measure was carried, to this circumstance we feel it must be attributed, that while a great many evils have followed in its train, the good, which, under other circumstances would have resulted, has been prevented. Instead of receiving the measure, as it was intended by the Legislature, as a manifestation of the good feelings of the Protestants of the country towards their Roman Catholic brethren, Mr. O'Connell and his satellites got it into their heads, or, at least, wished it to be supposed, that it was altogether to be attributed to the influence of their agitation; and good grounds they would have had for so thinking and saying, if the Duke of Wellington had been really sincere in his avowal.—They very naturally concluded, however, that if *agitation* gained for them one great point, it was only to be pursued a little farther to obtain all they might require, and upon this premise they have proceeded and acted, and we have no doubt will continue so to act, until they shall so far commit themselves, as to call down upon their heads the visitation which such conduct deserves. With the authors of these pamphlets, we esteem Mr. O'Connell and his present followers to be neither more nor less than a set of heartless, unprincipled agitators, whose only object is self aggrandizement. To the charge of the Duke of Wellington, however, and his advisers, we are compelled, in conscience, to lay a great proportion of the evils with which our country has recently been visited, and which has again thrown her back nearly half a century behind her neighbours—for we cannot hide from ourselves the truth, that the recent agitation has already been productive of the most serious mischief. It has paralyzed the efforts of those who were seeking to benefit Ireland—it has destroyed, in a great measure, that confidence between the great mercantile bodies of the two countries, so necessary to the prosperity of trade here—and it has frightened from our shores, those who might have felt disposed to have invested their capital in manufactures and other works, by which our population would have been materially benefitted. That we were, as a nation, poor, there can be no doubt; but our poverty arose not from the want of internal resources, or of hands capable of turning them to account—what we wanted was capital, to enable us to give employment to the people, and to work up our raw material; this, England has in abundance, and many of her monied men only required to be shown any fair speculation in which they might embark their surplus funds, and they would at once have engaged in it. But how stands the matter now? Is there now any hope that any of the rich men of the sister island will be induced to come and settle amongst us? Decidedly not. On the contrary, we know it to be a fact, that, in several cases, large sums have been recently withdrawn from the country, at a very considerable loss, in consequence of the feeling at the other side of the channel, that neither life nor property were secure at this side. And who are we to thank for such a state of things? First—the individuals who, in evil hour, declared, that the British government was unable any longer to resist the demands of Mr. O'Connell and his followers; and next, Mr. O'Connell himself. But this is a string which

has, of late, been so frequently harped on, that we feel no change which we could strike upon it, would be very pleasing to our readers. We shall, therefore, for the present, confine our remarks to the pamphlets before us.

Mr. Gregory's work contains a record of the most important political events which took place during the year 1830, consecutively arranged. The Reverend gentleman points out the extraordinary line of conduct pursued by Mr. O'Connell, occasionally referring to matters of history, to show that Ireland was always distracted by internal feuds and divisions; and arguing, from the benefits which accrued to Scotland from her union with England, that a similar result would have been the consequence here, but for the agitation which has from time to time prevailed.

Mr. Gordon in his work considers the subject in all its bearings, and handles it in a very masterly way. In looking it over, we were so struck with the power and force of many of his arguments, that we felt it would not be doing him or the subject justice to pass it over in the way of a mere notice; and had determined, by giving some lengthened extracts, to afford our readers an opportunity of judging of its merits. Finding, however, that our space will not allow us to give the quotations we had intended, for the present we must content ourselves with warmly recommending the pamphlet itself to all who wish to see the arguments relative to the union question, fairly stated; simply observing, that Mr. Gordon's language throughout is strong and forcible; and that to Mr. O'Connell he is by no means very complimentary. Indeed we have often thought, that, with all that gentleman's boasting of Milesian origin, but a very small portion of genuine Irish blood runs in his veins, as he shows very little of what usually characterizes Irishmen; and while using his tongue as a dagger, securely maintains, that his sword must for ever remain locked in its sheath.

Geraldine of Desmond; or Ireland in the Reign of Elizabeth. An Historical Romance. 3 vols. London: Colburn and Bentley.

Although this Work has been before the public nearly two years, yet we

willingly avail ourselves of the opportunity now afforded us, by the appearance of a second edition, to recommend it to the favourable notice and patronage of our readers. Agreeing in opinion with the talented Authoress, that Irish history is a province of literature replete with the materials and the elements of Romance, it has often been to us a matter of surprise, that so little use should have been made of it by those individuals who have been catering for the public, amid the nearly exhausted mines of English and Scottish legend; or that so many of our countrymen and women should have been at such pains to furbish up the old spears and helms which decked the brows of English and Scottish warriors, while the exploits and adventures of the chieftains of the Emerald Isle have been allowed to repose quietly in the tombs of those by whom they were performed. There is no question, that "the characters and actions of which Ireland has been the theatre, afford the richest capabilities either for poetic or prosaic fiction;" and had Miss Crumpe done nothing more than shown this to be the case, we think she would have deserved well of the people of Ireland; but her claims rest not here merely. In the course of the three volumes before us, she has not only furnished much to amuse and gratify the mere ephemeral reader, but has also, by a close adherence to the history of the times of which she wrote, furnished matter of a very valuable and interesting character, which may be referred to as affording considerable information relative to these eventful changes and extraordinary transactions which occurred during the reign of Elizabeth, as well as of the real condition of the inhabitants of the country at that period. Several of the characters appear to have been sketched from real life; and, altogether, the work is one which must be read with pleasure by those who feel interested in the early history of our country, or who may wish to inform themselves of the means employed at that period completely to subjugate its inhabitants to the domination of the English.

The writer is decidedly an individual of considerable talent; the great pains which she has taken to make herself acquainted with the early customs and habits of the people about